



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of: ) Group Art Unit: To Be Assigned  
)  
AMMANN *et al.* ) Examiner: To Be Assigned  
)  
Serial No. 09/973,862 ) Atty. Docket No. 2599-104-D4  
)  
Filed: October 11, 2001 )  
)  
For: AUTOMATED DIAGNOSTIC )  
ANALYZER AND METHOD )

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UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the reference listed on the enclosed form PTO/SB/08 (two copies) for consideration in connection with the examination of the above-identified application. A copy of the cited reference is enclosed herewith.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted within three months of the certified filing date of the instant application.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner indicate consideration of the cited reference by returning a copy of the enclosed form PTO/SB/08 with the Examiner's initials or other appropriate marks.

No fee is believed due in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement. If Applicants are mistaken, please charge the amount due to Deposit Account No. 07-0835 in the name of Gen-Probe Incorporated.

IDS



Application Serial No. 09/973,862  
Atty. Docket No. 2599-1000-230

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I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any referred to as attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date indicated below with sufficient postage as first class mail addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: December 6, 2001

By:

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Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

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**Complete if Known**

Application Number	09/973,862
Filing Date	October 11, 2001
First Named Inventor	AMMANN t al.
Group Art Unit	To be assigned
Examiner Name	To be assigned
Attorney Docket Number	2599-104-D4

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Sheet 1 of 1

[illegible][illegible]

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

**Complete if Known**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

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## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Examiner  
Signature

Date  
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